

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 102127  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF:WBEDMONDSON:LPR  
APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE  
S/S :SGOLDSMITH  
S/P:ALAKE (INFO)  
S:WTWADELL

-----050141Z 006477 /12

O 050024Z MAY 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 102127

EXDIS FOR RAY SEITZ FROM SEELYE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UK US RH

SUBJECT: NEXT STEPS ON RHODESIA

1. PER SEITZ-EDMONDSON TELCON, FOLLOWING ARE THE TALKING  
POINTS USED WITH BRITISH EMBASSY COUNSELOR SQUIRE ON MAY 3.  
BEGIN TEXT.

A. SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC APPROVAL AND GUIDANCE FROM THE PRES-  
IDENT, SECRETARY VANCE WILL BE BRINGING TO LONDON ON MAY 6  
A PROPOSAL VERY CLOSE TO THAT SUGGESTED BY FOREIGN SECRE-  
TARY OWEN IN THE TALKS OF 28 APRIL (E.G., STEP 3(C) IN THE  
DRAFT PAPER SENT OVER BY MR. SQUIRE).

B. THE DRAFT OF A PROPOSED JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT SEEMS SATIS-  
FACTORY TO US, ON A PROVISIONAL BASIS, FOR DISCUSSION  
BETWEEN VANCE AND OWEN ON MAY 6.

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C. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE BRITISH COULD PROVIDE,  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, A PAPER ON HOW THEY WOULD INTEND TO  
RAISE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN THE INITIAL CONSULTATIONS, E.G.,  
WHETHER THEY WOULD PRESENT QUESTIONS TO THE PARTIES, PUT  
FORWARD A DRAFT OF GENERAL CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES, OFFER  
ALTERNATIVE DRAFT PRINCIPLES, OR USE SOME OTHER APPROACH.

D. WE WOULD ANTICIPATE, AS DISCUSSED IN LONDON, THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE ONLY AFTER THE PARTIES HAVE BEEN PRIVATELY INFORMED.

E. IF VANCE AND OWEN ARE AGREED ON MAY 6, NKOMO COULD BE INFORMED OF OUR INTENTIONS IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD. OTHER PARTIES WOULD BE INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS BASED ON COORDINATED INSTRUCTIONS TO OUR RESPECTIVE AMBASSADORS/HIGH COMMISSIONERS.

F. AN ANNOUNCEMENT COULD PROBABLY BE MADE DURING THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

G. A SPECIFIC NEGOTIATING STRATEGY, BASED ON THE BRITISH PAPER IN THE THIRD POINT ABOVE, SHOULD BE WORKED OUT BEFORE SUBSTANTIVE CONSULTATIONS ARE BEGUN WITH THE PARTIES. END TEXT.

2. SQUIRE IN RESPONSE INDICATED THAT, SUBJECT TO US-UK AGREEMENT, THE FCO WOULD LIKE TO SEND DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY GRAHAM TO AFRICA ABOUT MAY 15 OR 16 TO ESTABLISH THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP.

3. SQUIRE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE BRITISH HAVE SUGGESTED AMENDING THE DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING US-UK CONSULTATIONS WITH THE NATIONALISTS TO: (A) MAKE CLEAR THAT THE CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE "DETAILED," AND (B) LEAVE UNSPECIFIED WHERE THE BRITISH CONSULTATIVE GROUP WOULD BE LOCATED. CONFIDENTIAL

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THEY WOULD DELETE THE REFERENCE TO DAR ES SALAAM AND SAY SIMPLY THAT THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP WILL HAVE ITS HEADQUARTERS "IN CENTRAL AFRICA, VISITING THE CAPITALS CONCERNED AS NECESSARY, INCLUDING SALISBURY." SQUIRE AGREED THAT SOME OTHER FORMULATION MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, E.G., THAT THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP WILL HAVE ITS HEADQUARTERS IN ONE OF THE AFRICAN CAPITALS IN THE AREA (OR ONE OF THE FRONT-LINE STATES), VISITING THE OTHERS AS NECESSARY. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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